

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/676,448

Examiner

MAI T. TRAN

Applicant(s)

PARIDA ET AL.

Art Unit

2129

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 11/30/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-9.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

David Vincent
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Tech Center 2100

REMARKS

Applicants' amendment dated November 30, 2007 responding to the May 9, 2007 Office Action provided in the rejection of claims 1-9, wherein claims 1, 2, 5, 6, and 9 have been amended and no new claims have been added. Claims 1-9 remain pending in the application and which have been fully considered by the examiner.

The Examiner withdraws the objection to the specification, the rejection of claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 101, the rejection of claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 1st paragraph, corresponding to Applicants' amendment. Claims 1-9 remain pending in the application and which have been fully considered by the examiner.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1

A system for classifying objects using a computer, the system comprising:

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an arrangement for receiving input data corresponding to identified properties of objects to be classified;

an arrangement for formulating a query to identify objects having properties of interest, wherein the arrangement for formulating a query takes into account:

properties that best define the query, wherein the properties that best define the query constitute a signature characteristic of an object collection that is known to belong to a particular class of interest, and further wherein the properties constituting a signature characteristic are determined utilizing an expression that best defines the object collection; and

a desired form of output, wherein the query is manipulated to produce different forms of output based on the desired form of output;

an arrangement for selecting properties of the objects to compare with object properties included in the query;

an arrangement for determining if an object belongs in the query based on the selected properties; and

an arrangement for obtaining a result yielded by the arrangement for determining if the object belongs in the query;

wherein the system utilizes a processor to perform the classification.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. Claims 1-9 are allowed.

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2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1-9 are considered allowable since when reading the claims in light of the specification, as per MPEP §2111.01 or In re Sneed, 710 F.2d 1544, 1548, 218 USPQ 385, 388 (Fed. Cir. 1983), none of the references of record alone or in combination disclose or suggest the combination of limitations including formulating a query to identify objects having properties of interest (supported at e.g. page 6, lines 9-17) wherein formulating a query takes into account properties that best define the query (supported at e.g., page 7, lines 9-15, pages 8-11), which constitute a signature characteristic of an object collection that is known to belong to a particular class of interest, a desired form of output wherein the query is manipulated to produce different forms of output, selecting properties of the objects to compare with object properties included in the query, determining if an object belongs in the query based on the selected properties, obtaining a result yielded for determining if the object belongs in the query.

The practical application would be the classification of objects i.e. insured driver by insurance policies (supported at e.g. page 12) using an optimized Boolean expression.

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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CONCLUSION

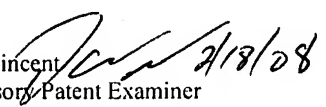
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MAI T. TRAN whose telephone number is (571)272-4238. The examiner can normally be reached on 10:00 am - 6:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David R. Vincent can be reached on (571) 272-3080. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

M.T.T
Patent Examiner

David Vincent
Supervisor, Patent Examiner
Tech Center 2100

 2/18/08